What is claimed is:

1. A method comprising:

inserting a vector in a packet that identifies a first device in a stack of packet forwarding devices to receive the packet.

2. The method of claim 1 further comprising:

using the vector and a table to determine a port for sending the packet to the first device in the stack of packet forwarding devices.

3. The method of claim 2 further comprising:

copying the packet for sending through a second port identified by using the vector and the table.

4. The method of claim 1 wherein the vector includes a bit identifying the first device in the stack of packet forwarding devices to receive the packet.

5. The method of claim 1 further comprising:

removing the vector from the packet for sending the packet to a second device external to the stack of packet forwarding devices.

6. The method of claim 1 wherein the first device includes a router.

7. The method of claim 1 wherein the vector includes bits respectively identifying packet forwarding devices in the stack.

8. A computer program product, tangibly embodied in an information carrier, the computer program product being operable to cause a machine to:

insert a vector in a packet that identifies a first device in a stack of packet forwarding devices to receive the packet.

9. The computer program product of claim 8 being further operable to cause a machine to:

use the vector and a table to determine a port for sending the packet to the first device in the stack of packet forwarding devices.

10. The computer program product of claim 9 being further operable to cause a machine to:

copy the packet for sending through a second port identified by using the vector and the table.

11. The computer program product of claim 8 the vector includes a bit identifying the first device in the stack of packet forwarding devices to receive the packet.

12. A computer program product of claim 8 being further operable to cause a machine to:

remove the vector from the packet for sending the packet to a second device external to the stack of packet forwarding devices.

13. The computer program product of claim 8 wherein the first device includes a router.

14. The computer program product of claim 8 wherein the vector includes bits respectively identifying packet forwarding devices in the stack.

15. A packet forwarder comprises:

a process to insert a vector in a packet that identifies a first device in a stack of packet forwarding devices to receive the packet.

16. The packet forwarder of claim 15 further comprising:

a process to use the vector and a table to determine a port for sending the packet to the first device in the stack of packet forwarding devices.

17. The packet forwarder of claim 15 further comprising:

a process to remove the vector from the packet for sending the packet to a second device external to the stack of packet forwarding devices.

18. A system comprising:

a switch device capable of,

inserting a vector in a packet that identifies a first device in a stack of packet forwarding devices to receive the packet.

19. The system of claim 18 wherein the switch device is further capable of:

using the vector and a table to determine a port for sending the packet to the first device in the stack of packet forwarding devices.

20. The system of claim 18 wherein the switch device is further capable of:

removing the vector from the packet for sending the packet to a second device external to the stack of packet forwarding devices.

21. A packet forwarding device comprising:

an input port for receiving a packet;

an output port for delivering the received packet; and

a switch device capable of,

inserting a vector in the received packet that identifies a first device in a stack of packet forwarding devices to receive the packet.

22. The packet forwarding device of claim 21 wherein the switch device is further capable of:

using the vector and a table to determine the output port for sending the received packet to the first device in the stack of packet forwarding devices.

23. The packet forwarding device of claim 21 wherein the switch device is further capable of:

removing the vector from the received packet for sending the received packet to a second device external to the stack of packet forwarding devices.

24. A router comprising:

a switch device capable of inserting a device vector a packet that identifies a first device in a stack of packet forwarding devices to receive the packet.

25. The router of claim 24 wherein the switch device is capable of using the device vector and a stack device table to determine a port for sending the received packet to the first device in the stack of packet forwarding devices.

26. The network switch of claim 24 wherein the switch device is capable of removing the device vector from the received packet for sending the received packet absent the device vector to a second device external to the stack of packet forwarding devices.